No. 150.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Adjutant General's Office,

Washington, October 2, 1862.

The following order is published for the information of all concerned:

ORDER TRANSFERRING GUN-BOAT FLEET.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Washington City, D. C., October 1, 1862.

Under the Act of Congress of 16th July, 1862, the Western Gunboat fleet is this day transferred from the War to the Navy Department.

The officers in charge will transfer to the officers of the Navy authorized to receive them, the vessels, naval stores, supplies, and property of all kinds pertaining to the fleet. The usual receipts will be taken in triplicate for all property transferred.

The Chief Quartermaster, Captain G. D. Wise, of the Gun-boat fleet, will settle up all indebtedness of the fleet to the 1st of October, make the usual returns, and will close his accounts, and report by letter to the Quartermaster General.

In thus transferring this fleet, organized and built under the direction of the War Department, to the Navy Department, the Secretary of War desires to express to the officers both of the Army and Navy, and to the civilians temporarily employed upon this dangerous service of the Gun-boat fleet, his high sense of the valor, skill, and patriotism with which the operations of this fleet have been conducted. The brilliant and important services of the gun-boats at Fort Henry, Fort Donelson, Columbus, Island No. 10, Pittsburg Landing, Memphis, Vicksburg, Natchez, Baton Rouge, and generally in independent action or in co-operation with the Army on the Western rivers, will constitute one of the brightest pages in the history of the war for the preservation of the integrity of the country, and the suppression of a causeless and wicked rebellion.

They have the thanks, so well deserved, of this government and of the people of the United States.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

L. THOMAS,

Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL: